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County Clerk R.E. Farrar, III Partners with Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security to Provide Photo Driver Licenses to Registered Voters

Dandridge – Jefferson County Clerk R.E. Farrar, III announced today that he has partnered with the Department of Safety and Homeland Security to make more outlets available for registered voters to get photo driver licenses for voting purposes. Under a new state law, starting in 2012 voters will have to show a state or federal issued photo ID to cast a ballot at the polls in Tennessee.

Commissioner Bill Gibbon announced earlier this week that R.E. Farrar, III is one of 30 county clerks across the state who have agreed to issue photo driver licenses at no charge to registered voters who currently have non-photo driver licenses. R.E. Farrar, III is an existing partner with the Department and currently issues renewal and replacement driver licenses and identification cards to Tennessee residents. Under the new agreement, R.E. Farrar, III will forgo the \$4 service fee normally paid to Jefferson County for providing this service. R.E. Farrar, III and the 29 other county clerks have agreed to provide this service starting October 15 and will continue through March 12, a week after the presidential primary election.

The Secretary of State's office reports there are approximately 126,000 registered voters who have non-photo driver licenses in Tennessee. Drivers age 60 or older may choose to get a non-photo driver license in Tennessee.

"We very much appreciate R.E. Farrar, III and his willingness to help the voters of Tennessee. This partnership greatly increases the number of locations where registered voters may get photos added to their driver licenses," Commissioner Gibbons said.

"We are glad that we have the opportunity to provide this service to our citizens at no cost to them. However, each applicant wishing to receive the photo at no charge is required to complete an Affidavit for Voter Photo Identification License. Also, it is important that the public know that if they are making any changes, besides just adding a photo to the license, there will be a charge for that service" said R.E. Farrar, III.

Of the 30 counties where clerks have agreed to provide this service, 21 are in counties without state Driver Service Centers. Jefferson County is one of those counties without a state Driver Service Center.

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